

his country on April 14, 2007 during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq.

Assigned to the tenth mountain division, Ryan enlisted during time of war, which speaks volumes about his character and patriotism.

Moreover, he was a leader and mentor to younger soldiers and his posthumous promotion to Corporal exemplifies this spirit.

Corporal Bishop is survived by his wife, Melanie and his father, Charles Bishop both of Tyler, Texas.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them and all of Ryan's family and friends.

Our community and Nation honor Corporal Bishop's memory and we are grateful for his faithful and distinguished service to America.

Corporal Bishop will not be forgotten. His memory lives on through his family and the legacy of selfless service that he so bravely imprinted on our hearts.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 444

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution (H. Res. 444) supporting the goals and ideals of National Aviation Maintenance Technician Day.

This resolution is intended to honor the invaluable contributions of Charles Edward Taylor, the father of aviation maintenance, and to recognize the essential role of aviation maintenance technicians in ensuring the safety and security of civil and military aircraft.

As you may know, Charles Edward Taylor, who built and maintained the engine that was used to power the Wright brothers' first controlled flying machine, was born on May 24, 1868.

Forty-five U.S. States have already declared May 24 to be Aviation Maintenance Technician Day within their jurisdictions. My resolution is intended to support these efforts, and honor aviation maintenance technicians, including Charles Edward Taylor.

CONGRATULATING GULF SHORES HIGH SCHOOL'S LADY DOLPHINS SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the Gulf Shores High School softball team, the Lady Dolphins, on winning the Class 5A softball championship.

The Gulf Shores High School softball team has reached the state playoffs for the past six years, coming in second in 2004 and 2006; however, this is their first state championship title.

The Lady Dolphins, led by Coach Karen Collins, won four tight games over two days of tournament play before scoring a dramatic one run victory in the bottom of the seventh inning to win the state championship.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Gulf Shores softball team on a great season and winning the state championship. This team deserves to be recognized for this great accomplishment, and I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff.

GULF SHORES HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL ROSTER

Jennifer Adams, Whitney Bizjack, Brit-tany Carroll, LaDaire French, Haley Haynie, Haley Hopkins, Stephanie Ivie, Yvette Jones, Aimee Livingston, Carolyn Manolakis, Tabitha Reno, Stefani Reynolds, Elizabeth Safiran, Stephanie Stuckey, Lisa Ybarra, Head Coach—Karen Collins, and Assistant Coach—Michael Jones.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT COBY G. SCHWAB

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of SSG Coby G. Schwab, a true American hero, who died on Thursday, May 3, 2007 of injuries sustained in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sergeant Schwab died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was assigned to the 321st Engineer Battalion, United States Army Reserve stationed out of Hayden Lake, Idaho.

Staff Sergeant Schwab was a hero whose desire to serve his country will forever make an impact on his family, his community and his country. He joined the United States Army to serve his country in the Global War on Terror. He will not only be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, but for the extraordinary person that he was. His warmth and optimism brightened the lives of his family and friends.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life SSG Coby G. Schwab. He acted heroically and made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Global Terror defending democracy and freedom.

A TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the students of the social science classes of Central High School's 266th graduating class. Under the leadership of teachers William Graham, Michael Horwits, Stanford Levy, Joseph Putro, Reginald Speir, and president Dr. Sheldon Pavel, the students' extensive research and dedication to political education deserves great recognition.

As members of the social science class, students gained an understanding of the local political process through the in-depth study of Philadelphia's 2007 mayoral race. Their hard work and dedication culminated in the Power of Student Voices Mayoral Forum, which was

entirely student run and moderated. Attended by the major mayoral candidates, the forum provided the students with an opportunity to raise their concerns and speak directly to the candidates themselves. The hard work necessary for the event's success further exemplifies the students' commitment to excellence.

It is an honor to recognize a group of students who show such great dedication to the political process. The commitment and outstanding initiative of the students is to be praised, and their excellence deserves great credit. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the students of the social science classes of Central High School for their exemplary contribution to the Commonwealth.

CONGRATULATING MONSIGNOR JOHN J. BENDIK AS HE CELEBRATES THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PRIESTHOOD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Monsignor John J. Bendik, pastor of the parish community of St. Casimir, St. John the Baptist, St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph in Pittston, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, who is celebrating his 40th anniversary in the priesthood.

Over the years, Monsignor Bendik has distinguished himself as a priestly shepherd to his many parishioners, and most especially, as a staunch advocate of education at all levels.

A son of the late John and Helen Sterbinsky Bendik, Monsignor Bendik was born in Wilkes-Barre and graduated from St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana before his ordination on May 27, 1967 by Most. Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, then bishop of the Scranton Diocese.

Monsignor Bendik served parishes in East Stroudsburg, Stroudsburg, Delaware Water Gap and Bushkill. He taught at Notre Dame High School and ministered to the students at East Stroudsburg University. Later, he served as chaplain to students at College Misericordia in Dallas, Pa.

During his long campus ministry, he served in many local, State and national leadership roles. He was the first president of the Pennsylvania Campus Ministry Association and was a founding member of the National Association of Diocesan Directors of Campus Ministry and the National Catholic Student Coalition. He served as team member for the Frank J. Lewis Campus Ministry Training School and also was a member of the Northeast Regional Ministry in Higher Education and the Associates for Religion and the Intellectual Life.

Prior to his current assignment, Monsignor Bendik also served at Our Lady of Snows in Clarks Summit, St. Benedict in Newton Township and St. Mary of Czestochowa in the Greenwood section of Scranton.

Monsignor Bendik serves on the Board of Trustees at College Misericordia, the Board of Regents of the University of Scranton and the Board of Trustees at St. Meinrad School of Theology. He has also served as a member of the Board of Pastors of Seton Catholic High School and the Greater Pittston Ministerium.